Demands of Association

3666- SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry has urged Government to allow the private sector to import and export canalised goods alongwith Government sponsored trading organisations;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether Government propose to consider the demands of the ASSOCHAM; and

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MTNISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to *(d)* Yes, Sir. Ali the suggestions received from the various quarters for amendment to Export and Import Policy, 1992-97 were kept in view while earring out a review of the Export and Import Policy and the changes as considered necessary were notified on 30th June, 1992 vide Ministry of Commerce, Notification No. 22(N-3)/92-97 and Public Notice No. 23-ITC(PN)/92-97, both dated 30th June, 1992, copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

Export of Rice

3667. SHRI MENTAY PADMA-NABHAM: Will the Minister of COM-MERCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1923 given in the Rajya Sabha on 28th July, 1992 and state:

(a) what is the quantity of rice exported in 1991-92 and in the financial year 1992-93 so far;

(b) the names of the countries to which rice was exported from India; and

(c) the total amount of foreign ex change in US dollars during this period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) to (c) During 1991-92, 7,11,416 Tons of rice valued at 306.26 million US Dollars were exported, while 1,63,009 Tons of rice valued at 84.6 million US Dollars have been exported in the quarter April to June, 1992. Saudi Arabia, UAE, U.K., Jordan, USA, Baharian, Kuwait, Oman, Singapore, Iran, Malaysia etcs were the major countries to which the rice was exported.

Joint ventures with Israel

3668. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

SHRI MURLIDHAR CHAND RAKANT BHANDARE: ,

SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation led by Mr-David Kitrak, Director General, Israel Export Institute visited New Delhi re-cently to identify areas of joint ventures;

(b) if so, the details of the areas of joint ventures identified as a result of the talks with them; and

(c) whether any Memorandum of Un dertakings was signed by them with the Confederation of Indian Industries, if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) An Israeli business delegation led by Mr. David Litvak Director General of Israel Export Institute had visited India on 30th and 31st March, 1992 and had discussions with the members of the confederation of Indian Industries and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry. As reported by these Industry Associations, both sides had exploratory discussions on areas of cooperation in the fields of trade and industry including joint ventures.

(b) During the discussions, scope 'or joint ventures was discussed in general terms and no specific project had been identified,